

representatives to use taxpayer dollars to support corporations for whom human dignity meant more than an extra tenth of a percent on this quarter's earnings.

In doing so, Massachusetts became the first state to enact such a law, joining dozens of counties, towns and cities nationwide where doing business with repressive governments is simply not acceptable. As a result, major firms—including Apple Computer, Hewlett-Packard, and Motorola—have severed their ties to Burma.

While the people of Massachusetts broadly support the action taken by their state, the European Union and Japan have filed a World Trade Organization challenge against Massachusetts. The Administration—which promised us, and continues to promise us, that trade agreements do not undermine states' rights—has been quietly pressuring Massachusetts legislators to repeal the law.

A coalition of 600 of the largest multinational corporations, for whom profits mean far more than human rights, has filed suit against Massachusetts. These are the same corporations who have fought all efforts to keep consumers informed about the effects of their purchases by opposing even the simplest requirements to label fresh produce with its country of origin, or to establish labels ensuring customers that products were made without child or sweatshop labor. The claim that the Massachusetts law, and others like it, are unconstitutional.

Since when is the right of consumers to choose how to spend their money unconstitutional? Since NAFTA? Since GATT?

Like many of my colleagues, I would prefer to act on these issues by repealing and renegotiating trade agreements to ensure that human rights, workers, and the environment are protected to the same extent as intellectual property rights and corporate profits. I would prefer to see the impacts of these agreements on states' rights and consumer's rights clearly defined before we commit ourselves. But we all know that's not going to happen. This amendment is a very small step in that direction.

We owe it to the people of Massachusetts, San Francisco, New York City, Ann Arbor, Palo Alto, Chapel Hill, and dozens of other American towns with similar laws, to uphold their rights as consumers and their belief in "what is good" over "what is profitable." I urge my colleagues to support the amendment.

**H.R. 4523, THE LORTON TECHNICAL
CORRECTIONS ACT OF 1998**

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 1998

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the 'Lorton Technical Corrections Act of 1998.' This important legislation, cosponsored by Congressman JIM MORAN and Congressman FRANK WOLF, will serve to put a mechanism in place to deal with the future of the lands associated with the Lorton Correctional Complex in Lorton, Virginia.

In early 1997, the Congress and the Administration agreed to work cooperatively, in good faith, to restructure the Federal relationship with the District of Columbia. The municipal af-

fairs of the Nation's Capital, for Constitutional and historic reasons reflecting fundamental national policy, are part of the most complex local governmental structure in the United States. In this Congress, I introduced the 'National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997' which was passed with overwhelming bipartisan support as a part of 'The Balanced Budget Act of 1997.' With the support and hard work of Congresswoman ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON and the delegation from the Commonwealth of Virginia, this legislation included the mandated closure of the Lorton Prison by the end of the year 2001. Under the law, DC correctional functions will be assumed by the Federal Bureau of Prisons and DC inmates will be housed at other facilities outside of northern Virginia.

Current law would also transfer control of the Lorton parcel to the U.S. Department of Interior after 2001. At the time of enactment of this law, after considering various options, my colleague JIM MORAN and I concluded that the Interior Department was the best Federal agency to maintain the integrity of the parcel and to meet my intention that the area be preserved as open space to the maximum extent possible. While recognizing the importance of reserving the authority of members of the community to assist in the ultimate determination of future uses of the property, I have always been concerned about maintaining significant open space in the parcel and avoiding damage to ecologically sensitive areas. I also believe that we must ensure that the I-96 corridor is not burdened by further traffic congestion in the Lorton area.

However, subsequent to the enactment of the closing of Lorton Prison it has become clear that the Department of the Interior is not the agency best suited to handle the future disposition of the Lorton parcel. Therefore, it has become incumbent upon the Virginia delegation to once again work to establish a Federal mechanism that will properly address the future of the land.

This bill introduced today will create such a mechanism. This legislation is the result of many hours of hard work and negotiation between Congressman MORAN, Congressman WOLF, Senators WARNER and ROBB, the General Services Administration (GSA), the Departments of Interior and Justice, the Office of Management and Budget, and myself. Under the bill 1) the GSA will assume control of the land; 2) the County of Fairfax will submit an official reuse plan to the GSA delineating preferred permissible or required uses of the land; and 3) the Department of Interior will have the ability to reserve a portion of the land if desired to enhance U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service properties within the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Most importantly, this legislation will allow for the continuance and expansion of park and recreation uses on the parcel. The County of Fairfax, working with GSA, will have the utmost flexibility to preserve the rural character of the land; expand parkland and recreational amenities to better serve the region, and guarantee that all projects on the land do not further burden the I-95 corridor and do serve to enhance the quality of life of Virginia residents.

I look forward to working with Congressman MORAN, Congressman WOLF, Congresswoman NORTON and Senators WARNER and ROBB to

achieve quick consideration and passage of this important legislation.

**"LORTON TECHNICAL
CORRECTIONS ACT OF 1998"**

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 1998

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, today I join my colleagues Mr. DAVIS and Mr. WOLF to introduce the "Lorton Technical Corrections Act of 1998."

As the title implies, this legislation is necessary to correct a few technical issues that have arisen since Congress enacted the "National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997." One provision in the 1997 law of great interest to the residents of south Fairfax was the closing of Lorton Prison and the transfer of the federal reservation to the Department of the Interior.

I believe the General Services Administration is in a better position to fulfill the 1997 Act's expressed intent of transferring much of the property back to the Commonwealth of Virginia. The General Services Administration retains both the legal authority to administer a transfer and the expertise to coordinate with Fairfax County, other federal agencies and local governments the property's ultimate disposition and use. The General Services Administration also has the capability to see that the property is properly cleaned of any environmental hazards.

The legislation I am introducing today transfers ownership of the property from the Department of the Interior to the General Services Administration. To ensure that future land use is consistent with the wishes of the local residents and the local government, the legislation requires Fairfax County to develop and submit a reuse plan within one year of enactment. The Department of the Interior may, through the Fish and Wildlife Service, exchange surplus land for property that benefits the Fish and Wildlife Service and the Commonwealth of Virginia. The Fish and Wildlife Service, for example, has expressed interest in acquiring some portion of the Meadowood property that would be exchanged for land adjacent the Mason Neck Wildlife Refuge that is now held by the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority.

While much of the Lorton Property would be reserved for green space and parkland, some portions, particularly those tracks adjacent to the I-95 corridor, could be developed, if such development is called for under Fairfax County's reuse plan. The legislation also establishes a special fund. Proceeds from any land sale for development would be used to cover the cost incurred by the General Services Administration to administer and dispose of the property and finance any environmental cleanup at the Lorton Correctional Complex.

With the enactment of the "National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997," several competing visions have arisen on the appropriate reuse of this property. By granting the General Services Administration the lead federal role, but ultimately relying on Fairfax County, through the public hearing process, to determine its appropriate reuse, the "Lorton Technical Corrections